```
> > > > > > > > < < < < < < < < <
```

THE

PLOTTER

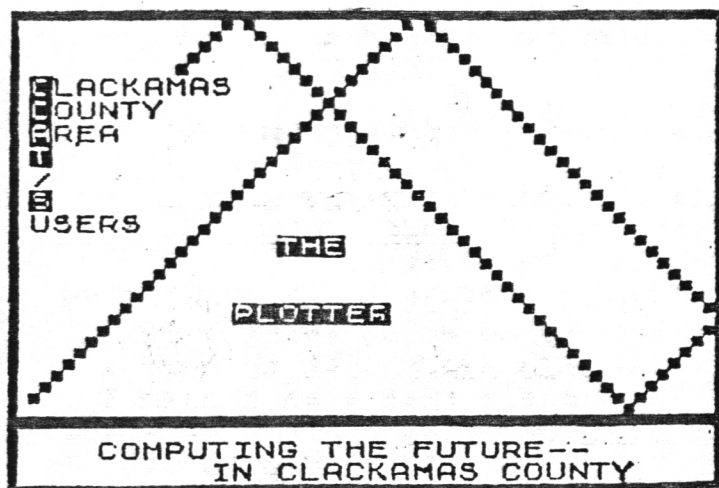
****

MEETING
The MAY meeting will be:

on: FRI., MAY 9, 1986
at: 7:30 P. M.
in: COMMUNITY ROOM
    FAR WEST FEDERAL S & L
    OREGON CITY SHOPPING CENTER

##

WHAT YOU WILL
FIND IN THIS
ISSUE-

COMPUTING THE FUTURE--
IN CLACKAMAS COUNTY

SINCLAIR

SELLS OUT!!
by: ROD GOWEN

Yes friends, you read it right! Uncle Clive sold us out! Actually he was quoted as saying that he never really wanted to be in the marketing end of the business in the first place. He will now do only research and development, what he is best at. We wish him well, and thank him for all he has given us to date.

AMSTRAD COMPUTER of England purchased the company and complete rights to any product in the computer line that carries the Sinclair name. We do not know as of this writing if they plan to continue to produce and/or sell the line. We will keep you posted on further developments as we hear them. You might also watch the other magazines, such as TIME DESIGNS and TS HORIZONS.

SINCLAIR RESEARCH LTD USA sold all of the existing stock of QL product to A+ COMPUTER RESPONSE in KEENE, NH for them to distribute. As of this writing, they report that there are now 12 Authorized QL Dealers in the US and Canada. There will be a dealer listing in several ads that they are placing in the TS magazines. Your best service will come from your local dealer.

We do not know what, if any, effect that all of this will have on other TS and Sinlcair publications, but rest assured that we will be here to help if we can.

CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

We had another fine meeting last evening (Fri. 14). Several more guests amd ome more new member! Keep bringing your friends. Welcome to all of the new members.

We also had some more discussion on the CCATS BBS. It has been shelved for now however, call the Timex only BBS which is owned and operated by our Vince Lyon. The number is 771-8564 and call after 9:00 PM. You will need a 'code' to gain access to the BBS. The code is the English pound sign (symbol shift x).

We also circulated a list of modem owners that can be contacted for information as well as practice using the modem. You really missed out, if you missed the meeting.

See yiu at the next meeting. And find another friend who has Times/Sinclair type equipment and bring him/her with you. Good computing

THE MAY MEETING— WHAT TO LOOK FOR!

These subjects are being actively persued by members and some will be demonstrated at the May meeting, hopefully with success-

Demonstration of modem communication between computers.
New products for Sinclair computers.
Save on disc with the push of a switch ANY program that can be loaded into the 2068 COMPUTER (OLIGER SAFE system). No commands required.
Catalog an A & J wafer.

Future meetings: the interface required to operate the 9" Pantasonic monitor display.
How to connect an ATARI CX85 keypad to the 2068 Contoller port. Great for keying in MC numbers.
Demonstration of word processing systems' used by various members.
An RS 232 port made from a modem.

COMMENTS ON COMPUSERVE

by: ROD GOWEN
CIS# 70436,1542

CIS: That stands for COMPUSERVE IN-FORMATION SERVICE. The definition is for those of you not familiar with the service.

BASICS- PART 2- Continuing from where I left off last time, I hope that you are able to follow:

I am assuming that you have your modem hooked up and your software in place. I am also basing this series on the use of the 2050 modem.

THE TS FORUM-is a SIG (Special Interest Group) located in the CLUB area on CIS. This space is sponsored by FAMILY COMPUTING MAGAZINE.

After you have practiced for a while with the "free-demo" on CIS, it is now time to get your feet wet and actually start to "pay" your dues. Using the same Portland phone # to gain access to CIS. Once you are on-line, you must use the CNTRL <C> as was pointed out last time. CIS will then ask USER ID? to which you must enter YOUR ID #. I would enter my ID, 70436,1542. Then CIS asks for the PASSWORD? You must them enter YOUR PASSWORD. Type in YOUR PASSWORD and you will be online! If you are in a hurry, and at $6.50/hr who isn't, you can enter the command "go club" at the first prompt. CIS will then take you to the CLUB pages. You will then see your name in a welcome screen and press enter to cont.. At this point you will get the function menu. Choose option #2, Read. Then you will choose the catagory. Of course you will first want to choose #4 for TIMEX/SINCLAIR. The system will then tell you how many msgs that there are and ask you which one to start with. I leave that up to you! I hope that this makes it a little easier for you the first time on. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Next time: How to get to the TS DATA LIBRARY. Be sure to be here!!!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I purchased an FD-68 Disk drive interface from Aerco on December, 1985. The system disk they sent me was unreadable and it was returned to them in December for replacement. I waited very patiently until the first of February, at which time I decided to call them (perhaps they had not received my letter?).

I spoke to Phil and was upset by his attitude. I was advised he had been busy doing 'other more profitable projects' and that he really did not want the Timex business. I was quite upset and after speaking to Rod Gowan of RMG Enterprises, selling dealer for my interface, I was advised to speak to Jerry at Aerco.

I tried and again spoke to Phil as Jerry was unavailable. Phil advised they were having difficulty getting the 3" disks my system uses but, they now had the disks and would send a new systems disk, immediately.

The first of March I was again on the phone to Aerco. This time I was able to speak to Jerry, who was very accomodating. Jerry apologized and sent a new disk out the same day, air express. Unfortuneely, it was unreadable.

I then spoke to Jerry again. He shipped me a 5 1/4" disk drive and disk, set up as drive C, for me to make my own copy. This was also sent air express! I ended up getting a copy from Jack Dohany, a programmer in California, and did not need to use the drive sent to me by Aerco, however the efforts were extaordinary.

I am writing as I was very vocal about the poor service and attitude and I am aware of others having the same problem, as evidenced in our recent group newsletter. However, I cannot say enough good things about how I was treated by Jerry. I therefore conclude that Aerco is really concerned about our business as well as servicing us after the fact. I would however suggest anyone who has a challenge with Aerco should talk to Jerry, not Phil!

Unfortunately, a comedy of errors such as I experienced can ruin a company's reputation. I have purchased other Aerco products in the past and will do so again. I felt like all of my complaining, I should tell the whole story. Especially the happy ending.

I hope you choose to publish this as I feel we owe the companies supporting our computers some good words. It always seems easy to criticize yet hard to praise.

Syd Wyncoop

SECRETARY'S SECRETS

Chairman Syd Wyncoop called the meeting to order at 7:45 PM. Members were cautioned about past due library items. Members introduced themselves as there were several visitors.

Rod Gowan annouced his retirement from the long held duties as librarian. He will continue this activity until replaced.

Discussion again centered around a BBS operation. As there are 2 BBS in the group it was decided that more experience would be desireable to see how much activity could be expected if CCAT/S operated a BBS.

There was also considerable discussion about attracting more members. Ideas such as posters, BBS articles, and spreading the word about our group thru personal contact surfaced.

Members voted to dispence with a July meeting but THE PLOTTER would be published. Rod Gowan reported on the newest changes in Sinclair merchandising (see page 1). Rod is one of the few dealers. A CPM swap meet in Tigard was announced by D. Lewis. Members were advised to take advantage of displays. Meeting was adjourned.

Vince Lyon

I'm going to assume that now you find that you're getting more and more excited about your new QL. You probably are wanting to write some special programs. Maybe even a space arcade/adventure. BUT, designing the screen is a real chore.

Suppose you wanted the screen to display everything the pilot would see: 1) a center video display which can face fore or aft on command, 2) an overhead console which reports on weapon status, 3) a small panel on the right center which shows aiming reports and target range, and 4) a below screen panel which reports on fuel, range from base, life support systems etc..

If you have anything besides a QL, then you better get out your manual on MC. With the multi-tasking QL, however, this screen display is a real snap.

On the QL one can set up all the windows in advance (we could use a DEFine PROCedure), and can print to any window and data or calculation result. Each window can be a color paper and ink, a different size with a different border, and can print in character sized designed strictly for it.

The program below shows some simple window designs with different colors and borders. I didn't use the full range of all the available character sizes because I am sure you will want to experiment with the defined windows.

As you may note, Line #5 sets up a window which is re-designed by Line #10. That is to make sure the screen is cleared of all previously defined windows.

The rest of the program is just a demonstration of printing windows of different sizes at different screen locations.

Remember that Window #0 is always the input window. When the program ends, the cursor will be in that window.

If you don't want to write the world's greatest space game, you will still find mant useful applications for windows in business and game programs.

```
5 MODE 4:WINDOW #1,500,250,0,0,:CLS
#1
10 WINDOW #1,440,150,30,0,:BORDER
#1,1,7:CSIZE #1,2,0:PAPER #1,1,:CLS
20 WINDOW #0,440,30,30,155:PAPER
#0,0:CSIZE #0,0,0:PAPER #0,5:INK
#0,0:BORDER #0,1,7:CLS #0
30 CLS #1:CLS #0
40 INPUT #0;"enter your name ";z$
50 PRINT "HELLO ";z$
52 PAUSE 120
53 PRINT \\\\"GOODBY ";z$
54 PAUSE 120
55 MODE 4:WINDOW #,500,250,0,0:CLS
#1
60 BORDER #1,0,0:CLS
70 WINDOW #1,440,100,30,0:PAPER
#1,2:BORDER #1,1,3:CSIZE #1,2,0:CLS
80 WINDOW #0,440,100,30,105:PAPER
#0,0:INK#0,7:CSIZE #0,0,0
90 INPUT #0;"Enter your name ";z$
100 PRINT "HELLO ";z$
110 PAUSE 120
120 PRINT \\\"GOODBY ";z$
130 PAUSE 120
135 MODE 4:WINDOW #1,500,250,0,0:CLS
#1
140 WINDOW #1,200,100,30,0:BORDER
#1,1,7:CSIZE #1,2,0
150 WINDOW #2,230,100,240,0:PAPER
#2,0:BORDER #2,1,7:CLS #2
160 WINDOW #0,440,75,30,100:BORDER
#0,1,7:PAPER #0,2:INK #0,6:CSIZE
#0,0,0:CLS #0
170 INPUT #0\\"Enter your name ";z$
175 PRINT #0\\\\\\\\\\
180 PRINT "well ";z$\\"meet my
windows"\\"this is #1."
185 PRINT #2;"this is window #2"
190 PRINT #0;"and this is window #0
(the input window)"
```
NOTICE!

CATALOG YOUR A&J WAFERS?

Dick Wagner

At one of our CCAT/S meeting I asked if anyone knew how to catalog the A&J wafer system (2068). Silence! Now I find that it can be done, and give a print out besides.

IF you own a MSCRIPT program for word processing with your 2068 computer you can buy an updated copy, MS5, from Jack Dohany, 325 O'Connor St., Menlo Park, CA 94025. There are 4 varieties of Customized Mscript Version 5, MS5T for cassette, MS5A with A & J, MS5D with AERCO disc added, and MS5Z with ZEBRA disc added. The program plus documentation (20 pages) plus the MC (22 pages) comes on cassette so you can SAVE the full MSCRIPT V5 on wafer, AERCO, OLIGER, or ZEBRA disc plus print your own documentation. Send no money with your order but pay later.

This new version will catalog all 4 methods and to prove that it will catalog a wafer just refer to the end of this article. If there are 2 identical headers on a wafer then the count will not be correct because headers are counted. Not likely a problem unless you save 2 copies on one wafer.

Of course V5.0 will do much more than the original MSCRIPT. There will be periodic reviews of various facets of this program as I dig deeper into using it. Also I need to adapt the OLIGER SAFE disc system to it. The easiest way will be to install the NMI SAVE switch so ANYTHING in the computer can be saved with the press of the switch.

```
*********************************
TYP NAME     AT START LENTH PROGL
BAS rbbs     01  9995 10126 10126

*********************************
TYP NAME     AT START LENTH PROGL
BAS MSCRIPT 01     5 3728  3600
BIN MSCODE  02 35800  9050
```

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Recently I had the opportunity to examine 2 amazing printed circuit boards. One was about the size of letter paper and the other was about 50% larger. The small one was about normal board thickness, a bit over 1/16 inch and made up of 4 layers of board material. The larger was the same thickness but 5 layers.

Now to explain the new multi-layer board system. There is a printed circuit on one side of each layer except the bottom or top has 2 circuits. These circuits are completely etched and have normal drilling pads for components. Each layer has pilot holes for assembly alignment. The layers are then cemented/ pressed together. Then all holes thru the pads are gang drilled. Because the drill goes thru the copper layers the copper at each hole and layer is exposed. Later these boards are treated chemically and copper molecules are formed in such a manner that all of the copper pads in one hole are joined by a tube of copper. This process is used for all holes that are to be thru traces.

The board is later coated with a solder resist so that only pads that are to be soldered can be soldered. Then the component information for location and ID is silk screen painted. The larger board was drilled and marked for 164 integrated circuits and most were 24 or more pin types!

All of this means that an amazing number of traces can be used without interfering with each other. Thus a greater number of components can be used and they can be complicated with many pins. Also it is possible to make more connections to any one pin or component lead.

INPUTTING COMMANDS—
ZX81 & 1000

Glen Ten-Eyck

If you have tried to add a large keyboard to your T/S 1000 and had everything working except for the shifted keys S, D, F, and G, then this article is for you. I have come up with a soft ware fix for your keyboard problem. It is more round about than just hitting a key but it will work.

Peek and Poke are the heart of the fix. As you type a program in, the D-File is always 2 characters futher than the last visible character of the last entered line. Remember how poking number codes into D-File can change a character on the screen? You can do the same in the program, if you know where to poke.

When you come to a line that has LPRINT, LLIST, SLOW, or FAST in it, put PRINT there and ENTER the line. If the program wants a line like this-
    210 LPRINT TAB 5; A$
you ENTER this-
    210 PRINT
Then with NO LINE NUMBER you ENTER
    POKE ((PEEK 16396+256*PEEK 16397) - 2),---
The 3 blanks are filled in with one of 4 numbers. They are
    225 LPRINT
    226 LLIST
    227 SLOW
    228 FAST

This will change PRINT to LPRINT, LLIST, SLOW, OR FAST. If there is more line to come, as in the example, use EDIT to bring the line down and finish it.

Look thru the program before starting to type it in. If it has more than one of these commands, follow a different procedure, designed to reduce the chance for error. Find a handy string name THAT IS USED by the program when it runs. Let us say that you use A$. You type in WITH NO LINE NUMBER the following:

LET A$ = "((PEEK 16396*PEEK 16397-2)"

Now, as you ENTER the program you follow the same procedure as above, except that you use this line to POKE the values in:
    POKE VAL A$,---
filling the 3 spaces as above. DO NOT USE RUN OR TEST ANY PART of the program until you have put in the last of these commands. RUN will erase A$ and testing any part of the program may alter A$.

This will give you the 4 missing commands. I hope that it helps you to enter some of the programs that you want but have not been able to do before.

If you want to put a line containing one of these instructions into a program that is already written, I have a plan for that too. Load up the program. Make a note of line number for the SLOW, FAST, LPRINT, or LLIST. On the very end of the program, make the line you want. EDIT the line number to put it where you want it. Last, delete the line from the end of the program.

If you want to LLIST a program, put these lines at the end-
    9998 STOP
    9999 LLIST
If you do not want to LLIST the whole program, put the line number you want the listing to begin on after LPRINT. Use BREAK to stop the printer if you want to stop it before the END of the program. DO NOT shut off the printer with the switch while it is printing. Oh yes, get your listing by entering the command-
    GOTO 9999
Do not forget to delete these 2 lines before going on. They will mess up the poking and they use extra memory.

I hope that this information helps you to use your computer more effectively.

BITS & BYTES

by: ROD GOWEN

Boy, has there ever been a shake-up in Sinclairland since we saw you last! There is a lot of news from a lot of sources. Let's get on with it!-

T-S HORIZONS-#17 reports that the Cincinnati Show is well on the way to becoming a real success. The latest word from Rick Duncan of TSH is that they expect at least 400 to 500 people to attend. This figure is based on preregistrations. We hope that they do indeed have a great turnout. Almost every vendor of any size is going to be represented.

ZEBRA-has delivered on several of the new items that they have been advertised recently, but they have been slow getting the new ZMU1 Emulator cartridge because of a lack of the Spectrum Roms from England. We understand that they are due in by the time you are reading this.

LARKEN ELECTRONICS-has told us that they now have the 1000 disk I/F ready for use. We understand that it is the most user friendly DOS on the market for the 1000. The price on it is the same as for the 2068 version. The price for either is $99.95+shiping. For more info, contact Rod at RMG Enterprises.

COMPUTER FEST '86-as noted earlier, is turning out to be the biggest event in the history of TS computing in this country. Remember, if you want to attend, you still have some time. The dates are May 3-4, 1986. That is on a weekend, Saturday and Sunday. We have news that there will be many door prises given away and one of them is a complete QL System, QL, QL RGB Monitor and the QL Printer. Who knows, maybe you could be the lucky winner! That would make the trip worth while. Show hours are 9 AM to 5 PM both days. For more info, contact Rod Gowen at 655-7484 or TS CONNECTION at 513/271-5575.

TINYBOARD BBS-software as was noted last month, was made public domain and we have been playing with it. It required many hours of work to get it up and running properly, but it may be worth it. We now have 2 BBS systems in operation in the Portland area. EXECUTIVE WORKSHOP-503/771-8564, is online temporarily from 9 PM till 7 AM each nite, and RMG ENTERPRISES-503/655-7484 is also online on a trial basis from 10 PM till 9 AM on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday nites. These are both business phones and both have CALL WAITING! That means that you should abide by the hours and BE AWARE that with the CALL WAITING, another incoming call, you may get dumped. If that should happen, please wait at least 5 min. before you try to call back. We may have these to use as message bases until and if, we get one going as a group. More on that later.

SINCLAIR RESEARCH LTD.-gave us the biggest news of the month. With the sellout of this company, we have lost the last of our Sinclair connections. We may or may not see any new products that will bear that now world famous name. They were bought out by the second largest computer company in England, AMSTRAD COMPUTER COMPANY. We can only hope that they take the ball and run with it. There are a lot of good things that they may use from the Sinclair line, even if they don't put Sir Clive's name on them!

A+ COMPUTER RESPONSE-from New Hampshire, have purchased the entire North American supply of Sinclair products and are the new distributor for the QL line. They have reorganised the dealer structure in this country, and, as the manager of A+, CAROL WHITMAN, said, they were going to separate the men from the boys. They did that by requiring a large initial order to ensure that the dealer was, in fact, a dealer and not just a business owner who saw a way to get a low price on his QL. We understand that they are also going to import a lot of third party products for the QL. We hope so! By the way, they are giving the QL system away at the Cincinnati show.

Times' up for this time, see you next time!

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